

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



February 18, 2011

File Number: G.11-01-010
City of Burbank, County of Los Angeles

Rabie J. Rahmani, PE
City of Burbank
Principal Traffic Engineer
150 N. Third Street
Burbank, CA 91510-6459

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Buena Vista Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 101VE-461.50, DOT No. 746010T in the City of Burbank, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Rahmani:

This refers to your letter, dated January 25, 2011 (Received January 27, 2011), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing at-grade crossing of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) Ventura Subdivision tracks and Buena Vista Street in the City of Burbank, Los Angeles County. The crossing is identified by CPUC Crossing Number 101VE-461.50 and DOT Number 746010T.

Buena Vista is a four lane roadway over two SCRRA mainline tracks. The crossing is currently equipped with Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning devices, pavement markings and advanced warning signage. Vanowen Street runs parallel to the tracks and is the signalized intersection adjacent to the crossing. In addition to SCRRA Metrolink passenger trains, the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) and the National Passenger Railroad Corporation (Amtrak) operate freight and passenger trains over this line, respectively.

The City proposes to make the following modifications to the crossing:

- Widen Buena Vista Street west of the tracks to accommodate an exclusive southbound right turn lane;
- Concrete panel crossing surfaces for two existing mainline tracks;
- Install an 8-inch high approximate 23-foot raised island median on the northbound crossing approach, from the intersection of Buena Vista/Vanowen Street to just before the crossing;
- Install an 8-inch high approximate 100-foot raised island median on the southbound approach to the crossing;

- Install a raised porkchop median on southbound Buena Vista Street for the dedicated right turn lane that leads to westbound Vanowen Street;
- Install a curb and median mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning devices with 12” LED flashing lights for southbound approach. Both devices to be equipped with backlights such that they are visible from both directions of travel;
- Install a curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning devices with 12” LED flashing lights for northbound approach, equipped with backlights such that they are visible from both directions of travel;
- Install Commission Standard 9E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning devices at the southwest quadrant of the crossing with Exit Gate Management System;
- Install a pre-signal on Buena Vista Street for southbound traffic;
- Modification of the existing traffic signal at the intersection of Buena Vista Street and Vanowen Street to provide advance preemption;
- Install a pedestrian gate in combination with swing gate on all four sidewalk approaches to the crossing (The pedestrian gate in the northeast quadrant shall be equipped with a separate flashing light pair facing that sidewalk approach);
- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant standard detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossing;
- Install R3-2(NO LEFT TURN) train activated blank out signs per plan; and
- Application of MUTCD compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, W48 (CA) 2 tracks signs, R8-8 ‘DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS’ signs, R10-6 ‘STOP HERE ON RED’, R13A ‘NO RIGHT TURN ON RED’ signs and RxR pavement markings.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request filed by the City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City, SCRRA, UPRR and Amtrak are all in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the improvements as described in your request dated January 25, 2011 and summarized above are authorized.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.05, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by the California Department of Transportation. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the CA MUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Pubic Resources Code 21084].

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include

concurrency letters by involved parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, RCES may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, City shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/formg>. This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

SCRRA should also submit an updated FRA inventory form to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. CPUC requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rces@cpuc.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Laurence Michael at (213) 576-7076 or ldi@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daren Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daren Gilbert, Supervisor
Rail Crossings Engineering Section
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

C: Naresh Patel (SCRRA)
Ken Tom(UPRR)
Harry Steelman (Amtrak)